

United States Department of the Interior

OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY Washington, DC 20240

May 9, 2019

Via email: 51392-12201843@requests.muckrock.com

Kat B MuckRock News DEPT MR 51392 411A Highland Ave. Somerville, MA 02144-2516

Dear Ms. Kat B:

On March 17, 2018, you filed a Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) seeking the following:

All communications, of any type whatsoever, to and from the following individuals: Yevgeniy Viktorovich Prigozhin, Mikhail Ivanovich Bystrov, Mikhail Leonidovich Burchik, Aleksandra Yuruevna Krylova, Anna Vladislavovna Bogacheva, Sergey Pavlovich Polozov, Maria Anatolyevna Bovda, Robert Sergeyevich Bovda, Dzheykun Nasimi Ogly.

On March 19, 2018, we acknowledged your request and advised you of your fee status under the FOIA. We are writing to respond to your request on behalf of the Office of the Secretary. As of today, no records have been released on the above-mentioned FOIA requests.

Clarice Julka, Office of the Secretary, FOIA Officer, is responsible for this denial.

You may appeal this response to the Department's FOIA/Privacy Act Appeals Officer. If you choose to appeal, the FOIA/Privacy Act Appeals Officer must receive your FOIA appeal **no later than 90 workdays**. Appeals arriving or delivered after 5 p.m. Eastern Time, Monday through Friday, will be deemed received on the next workday.

Your appeal must be made in writing. You may submit your appeal and accompanying materials to the FOIA/Privacy Act Appeals Officer by mail, courier service, fax, or email. All communications concerning your appeal should be clearly marked with the words: "FREEDOM OF INFORMATION APPEAL." You must include an explanation of why you believe the Office of the Secretary's response is in error. You must also include with your appeal copies of all correspondence between you and Office of the Secretary concerning your FOIA request including your original FOIA request and Office of the Secretary's response. Failure to include with your appeal all correspondence between you and Office of the Secretary will result in the Department's rejection of your appeal, unless the FOIA/Privacy Act Appeals Officer determines (in the FOIA/Privacy Act Appeals Officer's sole discretion) that good cause exists to accept the defective appeal.

Ms. Kat B

Please include your name and daytime telephone number (or the name and telephone number of an appropriate contact), email address and fax number (if available) in case the FOIA/Privacy Act Appeals Officer needs additional information or clarification of your appeal.

Department of the Interior Office of the Solicitor 1849 C Street, N.W. MS-6556 MIB Washington, DC 20240

Attn: FOIA/Privacy Act Appeals Office

Telephone: (202) 208-5339

Fax: (202) 208-6677

Email: FOIA.Appeals@sol.doi.gov

For your information, Congress excluded three discrete categories of law enforcement and national security records from the requirements of FOIA. *See* <u>5 U.S.C. 552(c)</u>. This response is limited to those records that are subject to the requirements of FOIA. This is a standard notification that is given to all our requesters and should not be taken as an indication that excluded records do, or do not, exist."

The 2007 FOIA amendments created the Office of Government Information Services (OGIS) to offer mediation services to resolve disputes between FOIA requesters and Federal agencies as a non-exclusive alternative to litigation. Using OGIS services does not affect your right to pursue litigation. You may contact OGIS in any of the following ways:

Office of Government Information Services National Archives and Records Administration 8601 Adelphi Road - OGIS College Park, MD 20740-6001

E-mail: ogis@nara.gov

Web: https://ogis.archives.gov Telephone: 202-741-5770

Fax: 202-741-5769

Toll-free: 1-877-684-6448

Please note that using OGIS services does not affect the timing of filing an appeal with the Department's FOIA & Privacy Act Appeals Officer.

If you have any questions regarding any of the issues discussed in this letter, you may contact Cindy Sweeney by phone at 202-513-0765, by fax at 202-219-2374, by e-mail at os_foia@ios.doi.gov, or by mail at U.S. Department of the Interior, 1849 C St, NW, MS-7328 MIB, Washington, D.C. 20240.

You also may seek dispute resolution services from our FOIA Public Liaison, Clarice Julka.

Sincerely,

Clarice Julka Office of the Secretary FOIA Officer